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U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. D. #
10 070,656	Gianfranco Merizzi	43531

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION

PCT/EP00/08875

1A FILING DATE	PRI. FILING DATE
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09/08/2000

09/10/1999

Roylance Abrams
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Suite 600
1300 19th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036

CONFIRMATION NO. 9742

371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER



OC000000009982018

Date Mailed: 05/12/2003

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

04/09/2003	04/09/2003
DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS	DATE OF RECEIPT OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE " FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** *The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363).* Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 03/08/2002
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 03/08/2002
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 03/08/2002
- Oath or Declaration filed on 04/09/2003
- Small Entity Statement filed on 04/09/2003
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 03/08/2002

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed

to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

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FORM PCT DO EO 903 (371 Acceptance Notice)